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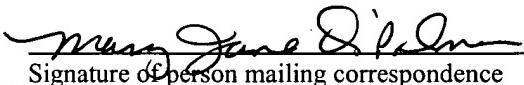


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Mary Jane DiPalma

Printed name of person mailing correspondence


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Anthony Giordano et al. Art Unit: 1636
Serial No.: 09/437,458 Examiner: G. Leffers, Jr.
Filed: November 10, 1999 Customer No.: 21559
Title: NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES AND METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING
COMPOUNDS THAT AFFECT RNA/RNA BINDING PROTEIN
INTERACTIONS AND mRNA FUNCTIONALITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
BOX AF

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the Office Action that was mailed in the above-captioned case on February 13, 2001, Applicants make the following Amendment and Remarks.

Kindly amend the application as follows.

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1 and 2 without prejudice and replace claims 3 and 12-31 with the following amended claims that have been re-written in clean form.

3. (Amended) The isolated fusion nucleic acid sequence of claim 32, wherein the